



Small Business Program Updates and Issues





SDVOSB Program

- **Verification of Veteran-Owned and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses**
 - Verification is ONLY required of businesses wishing to benefit from the Department of Veterans Affairs' unique *Veterans First* Contracting Program.
 - Misrepresentation of status shall initiate debarment action by VA officials.
 - Verified businesses will be annotated in the database (<http://www.vip.vetbiz.gov/>) and will receive the rights to display the Verified logo in their marketing materials.



SDB Program

- SDB Applications Suspended
 - The Small Business Administration (SBA) has suspended the receipt of applications for the Government-wide Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) Program effective September 22, 2008.
 - Companies may continue to self-certify as SDB.
 - This does not affect 8(a) Business Development Program applications, but they may take a little longer to process.



Program Priorities

- The 8(a) program has priority over all other set-aside programs.
 - FAR 19.800(e): "Before deciding to set aside an acquisition in accordance with Subpart 19.5 [small business set asides], 19.13 [HUBZone set asides], or 19.14 [SDVOSB set asides], the contracting officer should review the acquisition for offering under the 8(a) Program.
 - If the acquisition is offered to the SBA, SBA regulations (13 CFR 126.607(b)) give first priority to HUBZone 8(a) concerns."
- HUBZone has priority over SDVOSB
 - because of the terminology used in the respective laws and in the FAR ("shall" vs. "may") - GAO Decision B-400278; B-400308 (International Program Group, Inc.), September 19, 2008.
 - Must clear HUBZone before considering Small Business Set-Aside.



Issues

- ROTHE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION V. DOD
 - Challenged use of SDB Price Evaluation Factor
 - May have wider impact
 - “Business as usual” until a final decision is rendered and specific direction to implement that decision is received from DOD/Army
- CARS reporting errors
 - Pulling erroneous data from CCR
 - Business Type
 - Self-certifications
 - Entering inaccurate data
 - Place of performance



Small Business Programs Office



- What issues do you have with Small Business?
- What can the Small Business Programs Office do to facilitate your job?
- Please complete Comment Sheet.